

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method for buying and selling in-force life insurance policies including a computer that supports operations of a website comprising at least a web-based interface, wherein access to at least one portion of the web-based interface is limited to administrators and authorized buyers or buyer representatives, and a database, the method comprising:

providing the database with information concerning a plurality of in-force life insurance policies;

locating, using the web-based interface, from among the plurality of in-force policies stored in the database, those in-force policies whose original policy owners are willing to entertain offers from potential buyers to buy the policy on the insured from that original policy owner;

obtaining, via the web-based interface, financial and medical underwriting information about the in-force policies from their original policy owners, as needed, and storing it in the database for evaluation by the potential buyers;

categorizing the financial and medical underwriting information electronically so as to allow queries on the database, based on one or more category, to create a listing of in-force policies being tracked that are available for sale, by some query criteria, for review by the potential buyers, wherein the query criteria includes at least results of a life expectancy report and medical underwriting data stored in the database, the medical underwriting data relating to the original policy owner who is the seller of a policy in the database, in response to user interaction with the web-based interface, filtering offered policies at least based on life expectancy report data and medical underwriting data for those offered policies;

tracking membership records so that access to at least a buyer portion of the database is limited to potential buyers who are represented in those membership records; and coordinating auctions between potential buyers of policies and the original policy owners of those policies or their representatives.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising granting access, via the web-based interface, to the database to a potential seller or an agent of the potential seller based on verification of a current membership record.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising: identifying, from the database via the server computer, potential sellers of their in-force life insurance policies; and generating electronic messages that would be sent to these sellers or trigger a message to these sellers, advising them of an opportunity to sell.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein information concerning the in-force life insurance policy includes personal information of the in-force policy owner.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the database is implemented in an on-line environment including a website.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising holding an auction, using the web-based interface, for at least some of the in-force policies.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising appraising, via the web-based interface, the in-force policies using an automated appraisal service.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising providing the potential buyers access, via the web-based interface, to the financial and medical underwriting information of the owner and the owner's in-force policy stored in the database based on authorization by the owner or an agent of the owner.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising sending an email, by the computer, to the potential buyers when one or more of the in-force policies meets one or more criteria, wherein an email address and the criteria are inputted into the database by the potential buyers.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising tracking, by the web based interface, a particular in-force policy at the request of the owner or owner's agent.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein tracking the in-force policy includes issuing reminders to the in-force policy owner or the owner's agent to pay premiums for the in-force policy.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein tracking the in-force policy includes notifying the in-force policy owner or the owner's agent about a point in time when it would be advantageous to sell the in-force policy in a life settlement transaction.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 24, wherein tracking the in-force policy comprises:

- allowing the in-force policy owner or the owner's agent to enter information into the web-based interface about the owner's in-force policy;
- calculating, by the computer, an approximate face value of the in-force policy; and
- displaying, on the web-based interface, potential savings in premiums realized by selling the in-force policy for the calculated face value and buying a new policy with a lower premium.